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BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

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Volume XXXIX.....No. 178

## AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

OLYMPIC THEATRE.  
Broadway, between Houston and Beekman streets.—  
Variety entertainment, at 7:30 P. M.; closes at  
10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.WOODS MUSEUM.  
Broadway, corner of Third Street.—THE SKELETON  
HAND, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M. Same at 5 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.  
Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—THE  
TWO SISTERS, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.; same at 5 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.THEATRE COMIQUE.  
No. 54 Broadway.—JARTIN, OR, THE PRIDE OF  
THE FOURTEENTH, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.; same at 5 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.WALLACKS THEATRE.  
Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—THE  
TWO SISTERS, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.; same at 5 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.  
Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—THE  
TWO SISTERS, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.; same at 5 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.  
Fifth Avenue, between 42d and 43d streets.—THOMAS' CON-  
CERT, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.; same at 5 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.COLONEL'S.  
Broadway, corner of Third Street.—LONDON BY  
NIGHT, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.; same at 5 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.ROMAN HIPPODROME.  
Madison Avenue, between 23d and 24th streets.—GRAND  
PALESTINE CONGRESS OF NATIONS, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M.;  
same at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

## WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Saturday, June 27, 1874.

From our reports this morning the probabilities  
are that the weather to-day will be partly cloudy,  
with local rains.THE ARGONAUTA AND BUFFALO RACE.—The  
four-oured race between the Argonauta four,  
of Bergen Point, and the Buffalo four was  
rowed yesterday on the Kill Von Kull, result-  
ing in victory for the Argies—a full account  
of which will be found elsewhere.CREEDMOON.—The spirited contests in mark-  
smanship which have been going on for some  
time at this well-known resort must neces-  
sarily have a beneficial influence on the ef-  
ficiency of our National Guardsmen. There  
were two interesting matches yesterday, and  
the average results show quite a flattering  
exhibit of proficiency in what should be one  
of the soldier's principal aims.THE PRESIDENT'S TRAM INTO THE MOUN-  
TAINS OF VIRGINIA has proven, in one respect,  
significant politically and historically. He  
is the one man of those many who led the  
soldiers of the North against the warriors of  
the South who showed himself equal to the  
desperate grapple with rebellion that was  
necessary to finally crush out and terminate  
the war.THE PRESS ON SHEPHERD'S NOMINATION.—In  
our columns to-day will be found further com-  
ments from our exchanges on the President's  
nomination of Mr. Shepherd as one of the  
District Commissioners. They will well repay  
perusal, showing as they do the drift of pub-  
lic sentiment. The warning of the Cincinnati  
Gazette is especially significant, as it has been  
one of the President's most earnest and influ-  
ential supporters in the past.THE NEW CURRENCY ACT GOING INTO OPERA-  
TION.—Treasurer Spinner has issued a circular  
respecting deposits of United States notes in  
national banks, in accordance with the  
Currency bill just passed by Congress, and  
the Comptroller of the Currency will soon  
issue an order calling in the outstanding cir-  
culation of suspended banks. This, he thinks,  
will give from four to five millions more cir-  
culation to the South and West and will meet  
the immediate wants of these sections of the  
country.THE KROH-BRICKNER CASE brings promi-  
nently before the public an evil the existence  
of which is a scandal to our boasted civiliza-  
tion. We cannot be too grateful for the ser-  
vices of our medical men—services often ren-  
dered without reward. It is unfortunate for  
the medical profession that such cases as that  
to which we refer should be possible in a  
civilized community. Our leading medical  
men ought to be able to adopt such measures  
as would render impossible the recurrence of  
such a scandal as that connected with the  
case of Dr. Brickner.OVERHAULING THE SECRET SERVICE.—It is  
said the new Solicitor General is going to  
overhaul the secret service connected with the  
Treasury Department. As some evidence of  
this the chief of that service has been relieved  
of duty. This we may regard as the result of  
the moieties revelations and discussion. What-  
ever may be said of the necessity of protect-  
ing the revenue by some sort of secret agency  
there is no doubt the secret service system of  
late has led to great abuses and most tyrannical  
proceedings. The Solicitor General has begun  
right, and we hope he will act justly with  
our merchants and protect the revenue from  
frauds at the same time.THE SIOUX INDIANS AFRAID OF GENERAL  
CUSTER.—According to a telegram from St.  
Paul, Minn., the Sioux Indians, of Dakota,  
who lately became troublesome and showed a  
disposition to make war, appear to be in no  
hurry to face General Custer's Seventh  
cavalry. The General was ready to send his  
expedition to the Black Hills to fight the In-  
dians, but as the Redskins appear to be cowed  
he has postponed the departure. Custer is  
the right man to deal with the Indians, and  
they dread him. There is nothing like vigor  
and military promptness to make these  
people behave themselves. There is some  
reason to believe this show of force and readi-  
ness to fight on the part of the military will  
preserve peace.The New Turn in the Political Kalei-  
doscope—The Misfortunes of Reform.

And now there is another turn in the kalei-  
doscope of municipal politics. Suddenly the  
picture is different. All the combination of  
the pretty bits of painted glass that made  
up the picture of reform is dislocated. In the  
new picture the immaculate men of reform are  
themselves presented as culprits. Scarcely  
has the public had a fair opportunity to rejoice  
sufficiently over the moral revolution that  
consigned the antebellum of Tammany corrup-  
tions to the retirement of the Penitentiary,  
and scattered his numerous henchmen as fugi-  
tives from justice; scarcely have we fairly  
conceived the whole effect of the introduction  
of virtue and purity and high purpose in  
municipal politics, when, behold! we find  
that the standard bearers of the campaign to  
be waged on these principles are laid low by  
the verdict of a jury that disqualifies them  
from further usefulness in saving this devoted  
community.

It is true that the respective positions of the  
culprits of the reform party and the culprits  
of the Tammany party are not the same. Mr.  
Gardner says that his colleague and himself  
were "technically guilty," which is a nice  
phrase. Far be it from us to say that either  
of these honorable gentlemen could ever be  
guilty otherwise than "technically;" but, then,  
even the technicalities of the law have some-  
times awkward results. If these gentlemen  
are "technically" guilty of having disregarded  
their oaths of office in full consciousness of  
the immunities with which a virtuous purpose  
covers men possessed of power which they do  
their utmost to make irresponsible, then their  
offense is a misdemeanor, and they might  
have been imprisoned as well as fined. Tweed  
also was found guilty of a misdemeanor, and  
he also had disregarded his oath of office.  
Unfortunately for the Police Commissioners,  
the laws seem to look upon the offense of cor-  
ruption in office, with regard to the public  
money, as not greatly more heinous than cor-  
ruption in office with regard to the ma-  
chinery of elections. They cover the public  
purse with the protection that punishes  
people who plunder it, and they cover the  
right of the people to be safe from official  
interference at the polls with protection of  
precisely the same sort. And who is wise  
enough to say what may happen with these  
gentlemen, these "honorable men," and  
products of a great reform, rudely tumbled  
out of office? It unfortunately makes a great  
difference in our public processes whether a  
man on trial is in or out of office; whether  
hosts of people, with favors to beg, are waiting  
to catch his eye, or whether there are none so  
poor to do him reverence. If such investiga-  
tions as that had last winter on the street  
cleaning speculations should be revived with  
the gentlemen under the odium of a sentence,  
the result might scarcely be covered with the  
phrase, "technically guilty."

In like manner acts of very questionable legality in the  
purchase of supplies and the bestowal of con-  
tracts, which might have been regarded as  
"technical" irregularities on the part of Police  
Commissioners in office, may assume a far  
more serious character after the official life of  
such Commissioners has been brought to a  
disastrous close.

By events like this the light is let in for the  
benefit of the people upon the games of the  
political shippers, and the sham, the fraud  
and mockery of the pretences they put forth  
in the name of honesty and reform are ex-  
hibited. In Tammany overthrown by shriek-  
ers for reform, who merely want to secure for  
themselves the plunder they clamor over, and  
in the so-called reformers tripped up by the  
machinations of still other politicians, whose  
pretences are the same, and whose motives are  
no better, there is for the people the same  
lesson. There is equally little hope for  
honesty and the interest of the public which-  
ever side is momentarily uppermost and who-  
ever happens to prevail. Law is used to  
secure eviction from office, and then the  
party that seizes power simply continues the  
offences of those whose misdoings they had  
hailed. The tin whistle of reform is  
vigorously blown, and before the echoes of  
the notes die away it is discovered that  
Little Johnny Horner, who plays the  
tune, is slyly engaged in an attempt  
to pull a bigger plum out of the  
political pie, while all the nimble patriots,  
who dance to the tune, are endeavoring to skip  
into lucrative offices. In the end the people  
find that they have only exchanged one ring  
for another or for one of those curious com-  
plications of rings which can be twisted into  
all manner of shapes, divided, subdivided  
and joined together again in a manner  
marvellous to behold. Old Tammany dis-  
appears, dissolved into thin air, but in its place  
spring up the Custom House ring, the liberal  
republican ring, the Havemeyer ring, the  
Green ring, the general family connection and  
brother-in-law ring, and all the other rings  
that together make up the hybrid concern  
known as the reform municipal government.  
The only difference is that while the old Tam-  
many ring, standing solidly together to the  
exclusion of all outsiders, robbed the people  
with the boldness of brigands, the little  
independent rings of reformers, by whatever  
title they may be designated, are all engaged  
in acts of petty larceny on their own account.  
In the end the people may find themselves  
more out of pocket by the aggregate opera-  
tions of the smaller rascals than by the grand  
consolidated raid of the "boss" of public  
plunderers.

It is singular how similar are the ways of  
our political rulers, whether convicted sin-  
ners or professed saints, differing only in the  
boldness with which they are pursued. When  
the great American luminary shone over the  
city government it was his habit to buy up  
legislatures for the purpose of securing such  
laws as would enable him to prosecute suc-  
cessfully the policy he desired to pursue in  
the city; to appoint friends and relatives to  
office; to give out contracts in violation of  
law; to "interpret" the statutes regulating  
elections in such a manner as to insure such  
results as he desired, independent of the votes  
that might be cast by the electors, until the  
end of a criminal conviction was reached. As  
soon as the new light of reform was substi-  
tuted for the American luminary, the first busi-  
ness in order was the passage of a charter  
designed to secure for the reformers all the rich  
patronage of the municipal government, and  
when this was accomplished the appointment  
of friends and relatives, the prodigal bestowal  
of contracts on sons-in-law, sons  
and henchmen followed, and at last

we have a criminal violation of the Election  
laws, a conviction of the offenders in a court  
of justice and a chance for the reform of re-  
form. When the old Tammany speculators  
were in difficulty the cry raised by their  
friends was similar to that now heard from  
the friends of the new lights of reform—their  
offences were "technical," and public sym-  
pathy was claimed in their behalf. The  
Tammany Sachem might have taken a few dol-  
lars in a loose kind of a manner out of the  
city treasury, but it had been for the benefit  
of his party, and the money had been used for  
political purposes. The Police Commissioners  
may have violated the law, but they did so  
with a good intention. To be sure the money  
was traced in the one case into the pockets  
of the robbers, and the political advantage to be  
gained by the violation of the Election law  
was to inure to the benefit of the perpetrators  
of the offence. But that matters nothing.  
Their "intentions" were all right and their  
guilt is only "technical." The people who  
have an interest in the matter may by and  
by commence to inquire why honest officials  
should not show the purity of their  
motives and their devotion to the  
public interests by a strict adherence  
to the provisions of laws designed to protect  
those interests. When they do it will not be  
long before they overthrow "reform," as they  
overthrew Tammany, and try another set  
of rulers. Whether the result will be any more  
propitious than that which has followed the  
replacement of the old Tammany Ring by the  
combined rings of political reformers is a  
question that time alone can determine.

Meanwhile we may look for a general  
scrambling and scratching among the poli-  
ticians for the vacant Police Commissioner-  
ships, for we presume that the attempt to  
prove that a conviction for violation of law is  
not a conviction for violation of the oath of  
office, that a misdemeanor which comes  
within one portion of the revised statutes  
is not such a misdemeanor as comes  
within another portion, and that an  
act declared to be criminal by the  
verdict of a jury is not a criminal act  
at all, will end in failure. Tammany will  
strive to secure the prize and the republicans  
will make a determined effort to do the same.  
What course the Mayor may pursue is uncer-  
tain, for his ways are a puzzle alike to men  
of sense and men of honor. But whatever the  
eccentric old gentleman who at present con-  
trols the municipal government may do, the  
change in the Police Commission must have  
an effect on the situation and necessitate new  
schemes and fresh deals among the active  
politicians of the city.

The Vacant Police Commissioner-  
ships—Will the Law Be Obeyed?

The friends of Police Commissioners Char-  
lick and Gardner affect to believe that the  
conviction of those officers of a misdemeanor  
in having violated a law they were sworn to  
faithfully observe does not entail the forfeiture  
of their offices. It is even rumored that Mr.  
Gardner appeared at Headquarters yesterday  
and essayed to perform some official duties.  
There was no meeting of the Police Board,  
however, and it is not probable that the pres-  
ent Commissioners—Mr. Disbaker and Gen-  
eral Duryee—will be willing to risk indict-  
ment for misdemeanor themselves by acting  
with or in any manner recognizing the official  
existence of their late associates. There can  
be little doubt that the conviction entails *ipso  
facto* a forfeiture of office, and that the places  
of the Commissioners are already vacant. We  
believe the provisions of the charter to be con-  
clusive on that point, independent of the  
plain language of the common law. The  
charter makes any violation of its provisions  
a misdemeanor, and declares that upon con-  
viction the office held by the person so con-  
victed shall be forfeited. One of the provisions  
of the charter requires every municipal officer  
to perform such duties as are required of him  
under any law not inconsistent with the char-  
ter, and a violation of such duties is thus  
made a violation of the charter. But the  
language of the Revised Statutes is ex-  
plicit, and there can be no doubt that the  
Police Commissioners in their relation to the  
Election law hold an office that comes within  
its scope.

Section 40, of article 4, chapter 5, part 1,  
volume 1 of the Revised Statutes, fifth edition,  
provides that "Every office shall become  
vacant on the happening of either of the fol-  
lowing events before the expiration of the  
term of such office. . . . 5. His conviction  
. . . of any offence involving a viola-  
tion of his oath of office."

Section 41 provides, "Whenever any officer  
shall be convicted of . . . an offence  
involving a violation of his oath of office . . .  
the Court before which such conviction  
shall be had . . . shall immediately  
give notice thereof to the Governor, stating  
the cause of such conviction."

Section 42 provides that "The Governor  
shall immediately give notice of the vacancy  
created by such conviction . . . to the  
body or officer in whom the appointment to  
the office is vested."

The duty of the Governor is mandatory.  
He cannot go behind the certificate of convic-  
tion which has been forwarded to him by the  
Court. Whatever special pleas may be raised  
as to the law under which the conviction was  
secured, or as to the position of the Police  
Commissioners when acting as Commissioners  
under the Election law, or as to the scope of  
their oath of office, it is clear that any attempt  
of the convicted Commissioners to hold on to  
office or to do a single official act will be a  
bold attempt to defy the law and a most dan-  
gerous precedent in a city like New York.

THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA is engaged  
in a very laudable endeavor to secure to the  
people of the Republic a measure of internal  
peace based on the foundation of constitu-  
tional reform. The special letter from  
Caracas which we publish in the HERALD to-  
day details the progress of the movement under  
the administrative direction of President  
Guzman Blanco. The matter of the treat-  
ment of the Church appears to present a  
difficulty in the way, the subject having  
assumed the same aspect of perplexity and  
doubt, or positive contradiction, which is so  
embarrassing to many of the Old World gov-  
ernments.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE is a crime deserving  
swift and severe punishment on the part of  
the law, and the verdict found against a  
physician in one of the courts yesterday for  
this offence will, it is to be hoped, be a warn-  
ing to others to avoid such a horrible crime.

## Bergh's Humanity.

Although we have been compelled to with-  
hold our sympathy from the worthy President  
of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty  
to Animals in his efforts to defend the right  
of dogs to bite promiscuously, we have always  
been desirous to turn his philanthropy to  
practical account for the benefit of suffering  
humanity. While so many human beings are  
suffering we have no tears to shed for dead  
dogs, though we admire the many noble in-  
stincts of "the friend of man." Still we pre-  
fer the man to his friend, and if only we could  
induce the worthy gentleman who presides  
over the fates of the lower animals to turn his  
eyes towards rational beings we feel that we  
should have accomplished much for the cause  
of mercy and humanity. Without wishing to  
detract from the merit of a vagabond cur, we  
do estimate a thousand-fold more highly the  
meanest biped that crawls through the slums  
of this great city, even though the human ani-  
mal may be weighted down with sin and de-  
graded even to the lowest depths. Not that  
we desire to palliate cruelty, however exer-  
cised, but that while a human being remains  
to be rescued, we hold it to be false  
humanity to waste our sympathies on the  
brute. It would seem also that the  
sufferings of the dog have monopolized the  
attention of Mr. Bergh and his attendant  
angels. On the wrongs of other animals the  
recording spirit drops a tear, and they are  
allowed to sink into oblivion. At one time  
the horse received some attention; but, judg-  
ing from the indifference shown to this  
noblest quadruped of late days, there must  
have arisen some cause of coolness between  
Equus and Bergh. Now the "bus horse may  
sweat and groan under his heavy burden, and  
Bergh utters not in sympathy a single sigh.  
Merchants and speculators can now reach  
home in time for dinner untroubled by  
thought of rueful countenance or hard-visaged  
virtue, and the Hippodrome invites the  
public to witness steep chases, where gentle  
woman and noble horses risk life and limb  
for the amusement of the giddy crowd. Still  
is Bergh silent.

Here, then, we have double cause to plead;  
the horse, if not the woman, has a claim  
on philanthropy. On many occasions lately  
horse and rider have been thrown mangled  
into the arena, and neither law nor philan-  
thropy has protested against such cruel  
sport. Hurdle racing under the most  
favorable conditions is full of dan-  
ger. It is the favorite sport of men  
in the prime of life, full of vigor and daring.  
It demands courage, skill and powerful horses,  
and, above all, it demands a fair field with  
plenty of room. Even under these conditions  
it is decidedly a risky pastime, full of peril  
to limb and life. But when pursued in a mis-  
erable circus with worn-out hunters, tired out  
by over work, by weak women not over  
skilled in the exercise and within a narrow  
space that leaves no hope of escape for the  
unfortunate who falls from the trampling  
hoofs of succeeding horses, it becomes brutal  
and inhuman. It is a fair question for philan-  
thropy whether a showman has a right thus  
to play with the lives of human beings for his  
selfish profit. It may be that mere men and  
women have no right to protection from the  
law; but greater mercy has been extended to  
the brute. In the name of the injured horse,  
if not of the maimed and crushed woman,  
Mr. Bergh can interfere and put an end to  
this cruel sport. It will be urged that the  
managers of the Hippodrome have expended  
large sums in providing entertainment for the  
public, and that a few broken necks, be they  
necks of horses or of women, should not be  
allowed to interfere with vested  
rights. But in the interests of humanity  
this plea must be set aside. If the managers  
desire to amuse the public let them ride the  
hurdle races themselves—to this we have no  
objection. Should they unfortunately break  
their necks the deterrent effect the accident  
would exercise on other enterprising indi-  
viduals might in some sort console the public.  
But, in the meantime, we hope that the phil-  
anthropic Bergh will turn his eyes from the  
"dog star" towards the Hippodrome and give  
poor humanity the benefit of his benevolence.

IMPROVED POSTAL FACILITIES WITH FRANCE.—  
The Post Office Department was officially in-  
formed yesterday by the French Minister that  
the postal convention between France and the  
United States had been ratified by the National  
Assembly. The Minister wanted the conven-  
tion to go into operation the 1st of July, but  
this cannot be, as the 1st of August is the  
date fixed. The charge for letters of one-  
third of an ounce from France to the United  
States will be ten cents, which is a consider-  
able reduction, and nine cents for half an  
ounce from the United States to France. Five  
cents additional will be charged on unpaid  
letters. The postage on samples, books and  
newspapers is to be separately arranged, ac-  
cording to the locality from which they may  
be sent. In this postal arrangement our gov-  
ernment has shown its liberality in order to  
induce the French government to make a  
convention and for the purpose of facilitating  
intercourse between the two countries.

THE ICE MONOPOLY.—Ice consumers in this  
city are beginning already to raise the  
cry of robbery and monopoly on the part  
of the companies that supply them with the  
needed cooling element during the dog  
days. The ice companies come for-  
ward with abundant specious arguments in  
favor of the advance in prices which has  
taken place. Thus the question stands and  
the conflict goes on. There is no doubt that  
ice companies, like coal dealers, have an ir-  
resistible tendency towards extortionate rates,  
and they lay hold of every excuse they can  
to attain their object. But if their customers  
were to consult hygienic principles, rather  
than a pernicious habit in the one particular  
branch of ice consumption—excessive indul-  
gence in ice water—a very large proportion of  
their expenses would be removed. Many of  
the most dangerous summer complaints are  
engendered by this evil practice of drinking  
ice water constantly, irrespective of the  
heated condition of the system. Moderation  
in its use would tend to remove, not only the  
complaints about monopoly, but what is  
more important, disease and death from  
what are now characterized as summer com-  
plaints.

THE UNFORTUNATE BROOKS, whose guber-  
natorial aspirations in Arkansas were recently  
annihilated by a pronunciamento from Wash-  
ington, refuses to die easily. He has a sub-  
committee now ready to start for that delect-

able State to take part in a proposed investi-  
gation into the causes of the late unpleasant-  
ness.

## More Hydrophobia.

Another fatal case of this frightful malady  
is reported, and it is a peculiarly instructive  
one. It presents the symptoms of the disease  
in a way that will clear up somewhat, even for  
the general reader, the relation of its pa-  
thology to the great prominent feature that has  
given its name to the disease. Hydrophobia  
is generally called a spasmodic disease, and it  
has been called a disease without a lesion.  
"Diseases without lesions" are of course  
merely diseases in which science has not yet  
been able to locate the lesion. All the indica-  
tions in hydrophobia are that the seat of  
the disease is the throat, and that the morbid  
process is an irregular action of the nerves  
of this part, which results in a spasmodic  
closure of the passage. Inflamed and gener-  
ally disordered, the parched membrane of the  
throat excites in the victim an acute sensation  
of thirst, and he is as eager to drink as one  
in the desert. He sees water, and the very  
sight of it provokes the nerves to involuntary  
action; just as when a hungry man sees a  
tempting dish we say "his mouth waters." Involuntarily the muscles of the throat perform  
the action that they would perform if the  
man were swallowing water. The nerves  
thus called upon in their disordered state act  
spasmodically, and the man suffers a momen-  
tary suffocation. At the beginning of the  
disease the spasm is slight; but as it goes on  
and the process is repeated it becomes severer,  
and the very sound of water poured out will  
excite the spasm, because this also excites the  
now uncontrollable action of the throat. Here,  
then, begins what is called the water  
madness. The man becomes conscious that  
there is a relation between the presence of the  
water and this horrible power that seems to  
seize and close up his throat—the uncontrol-  
lable power of his own muscles. Every time  
his parching throat and terrible thirst  
tempt him to turn his eyes toward a cup of  
water the spasmodic action is renewed and he  
is relieved a little if he sees no water. Hence  
he fears and avoids water, simply as it is the  
thing that provokes a seizure that threatens  
instant death. Some men of exceptionally  
strong will are able in the early stages of the  
disease to drink, and this has given rise to  
the notion that the hydrophobic symptom was  
itself only an imagination of the observers;  
but it is a reality, and the above account of  
its rationale seems to agree with the progress  
of this last very marked case.

BANKRUPTCY AT HAVANA.—The tide of  
bankruptcy is rapidly rising in Cuba, and  
as usual the "good Spaniards" are ap-  
pealing to the Captain General to take  
measures to stop the advancing flood. Gold  
at 222 makes life at Havana decidedly uncom-  
fortable, especially as there is a good prospect  
that before long it may reach 1,000. Under  
these circumstances the "good Spaniards" de-  
mand the imposition of a five per cent tax on  
all real estate for a term of two years. Within  
that time they are sanguine enough to believe  
that the rebellion will come to an end; but  
in this they are very likely to be disappointed,  
unless, indeed, the war be brought to an end  
by the recognition of Cuban independence.  
If the Spanish inhabitants of Cuba and the  
government of Spain were wise enough to  
consult their real interests and cast aside their  
over-sensitive pride they would perceive the  
advantage of making terms with an insurrec-  
tion they cannot crush and accepting a solid  
compensation for the abandonment of an illu-  
sory dominion which can bring no benefit  
either to Spain or her people.

THE PUBLIC SITUATION IN FRANCE remains  
hopeful for the cause of the conservative  
democracy and the Republic. The members  
of the Assembly Committee of Thirty are not  
influenced by any feeling of excitement or  
haste in their consideration of the question of  
extending MacMahon's term of power. On  
the contrary, they appear desirous to treat it  
with all the attention which its importance  
demands. Monarchism, as a general princi-  
ple, is losing its hold on the mind of the As-  
sembly, and Bonapartism has been handed  
over to the especial care of the Paris police.

THE BRAZILIAN CABLE.—Queen Victoria  
and Emperor Dom Pedro have exchanged  
congratulatory messages. This enterprise in  
the direction of annihilating distance fills the  
mind with hope regarding the future. It  
gives fair promise of an era which shall know  
no war. Let us hope that our bright pros-  
pects will all become reality.

THE SYRACUSE DISASTER.—The testimony  
given yesterday in the Coroner's inquest in  
regard to the cause of this frightful calamity  
bears heavily against the architect. Here is  
an opportunity to teach building contractors  
to pay some regard to human life which the  
jury in the case should not neglect.

THE SEZ CANAL TRANSIT.—This subject  
is engaging a good deal of attention in En-  
gland. It is intimately connected with the  
cognate matters of the route to India and the  
influence of British diplomacy in Egypt. France  
is likely to recede from the position which  
Napoleon and Eugénie assumed in this direc-  
tion, and Mr. Bull is, consequently, about to  
rearrange a coalition which will not be bene-  
ficial to the interests of the French Republic  
in the Orient.

ANOTHER HORRIBLE MURDER occurred last  
evening in one of the huge caravansaries  
known as tenement houses, where the children  
of poverty and toil are huddled together in a  
manner as deleterious to morals as to health,  
and where too often the miseries of their situa-  
tion are enhanced by the vile potations taken  
to gain a temporary relief. It presents fea-  
tures familiar enough—a husband returning  
from his labors to find his wife in a state of  
maudlin drunkenness, with other wives, her  
neighbors, followed by recriminations, vio-  
lence and murder.

EDUCATION IN THE SOUTH.—One of the best  
evidences of reconstruction in Virginia is  
found in the prosperity of her colleges. The  
Washington and Lee University has had its  
commencement proceedings at Lexington,  
Va., and from the report elsewhere printed it  
seems to have been an occasion of unusual  
interest. Degrees were conferred in various  
branches, and we note as an indication of the  
esteem in which the university is held that  
among the graduates are young men from  
every part of the country, from New York and  
Ohio, as well as from South Carolina and  
Texas.

## Pilots and Pilotage.

The important question of the rights of  
pilots is one in which every citizen of New  
York is deeply interested. In fact, the posses-  
sion of daring and skillful men, thoroughly  
acquainted with the navigation of our harbor,  
is necessary to our commercial supremacy.  
No one at all acquainted with the subject will  
think we exaggerate when we declare the  
pilots to be one of the most useful and efficient  
bodies of public servants that we possess.  
Every attack made on them, every attempt  
made to diminish their efficiency is a blow  
aimed at the prosperity and commercial im-  
portance of our city. It is quite true that a  
small section of shipowners are desirous of  
doing away with compulsory pilotage. These  
men, to save the fees, would risk the loss of  
their ships and endanger the property and the  
lives of the passengers entrusted to their keep-  
ing in order to secure a few hundred dollars  
additional profit. This, at least, is the plea  
put forward; but as, unfortunately, gambling  
in sea risks is quite as unscrupulously fol-  
lowed by avaricious men as gambling in  
stocks, it is quite possible that other and less  
worthy motives even may be the motive  
power in many minds. However, our duty is  
to look to the interest of the community, and  
it demands that the navigation of the harbor  
shall be rendered as safe as possible, and this  
can only be done by encouraging bold and  
skillful men to follow the arduous profession  
of pilots.

Any attempt that may be made to legislate  
so useful a class of public servants out of the  
means of earning honestly their bread shall  
always meet with our most strenuous opposi-  
tion. We defend the pilots from principle,  
not from favor, because we consider them  
useful public servants. We have received the  
following letter from their counsel, which we  
take great pleasure in publishing, because it  
proves that our efforts in their behalf have  
been appreciated:—

NEW YORK, June 25, 1874.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—  
As counsel for the pilots in the suits recently  
won in the Court of Common Pleas, permit me to  
thank you for the able and just editorial in your  
issue of to-day. Yours, &c.  
GEO. W. BLUNT.

A LIFE INSURANCE HUBBUB.—The Cali-  
fornia Legislature during its last session  
passed a bill which has caused universal dis-  
satisfaction and commotion in life insurance  
circles throughout the United States, as far as  
that State is concerned. The cause of com-  
plaint is in obliging all outside companies,  
doing business in California, to appoint each  
a resident agent of the State, whose actions  
shall be binding on the companies. The latter  
have consequently withdrawn their business,  
on the sensible grounds that no company  
could incur the risk of committing its business  
interests into the hands of a single man, over  
whom, according to the law in question, it  
can exercise no control.

THE CONFLICT BETWEEN CHURCH AND  
STATE IN GERMANY is maintained with great  
animation by the leaders of the opposing  
forces, from Berlin to Fulda and thence to  
Munich and other centres of government and  
political caucus. The churchmen are very  
decisive in their expression, and the lay power  
is exceedingly incisive in its action. The  
present status cannot be maintained for any  
very lengthened period.

## PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Gonnot goes to Trouville.  
Anna Dickinson has not written a tragedy.  
Because his name is Eugene will they call him  
prince?  
Murat Halstead is registered at the Brevoort  
House.  
Magne won't budge from his opposition to the  
budget.  
Senator Carl Schurz, of Missouri, is at the Fifth  
Avenue Hotel.  
Ketchum was caught at embezzlement and will  
be kept elsewhere.  
Senator John S. Hager, of California, is residing  
at the Hoffman House.  
Congressman John A. Kasson, of Iowa, is stay-  
ing at the Glenham Hotel.  
Congressman R. H. Duell, of Cortland, N. Y., is  
stopping at the Astor House.  
The room that Cochrane and the liberals slept in  
at Buffalo was not a ballroom.  
Governor Pope Hennessy, of the Bahamas, as  
arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.  
Captain Hamilton Russell, of the British Army, is  
quartered at the Brevoort House.  
Chief Engineer J. W. King, United States Navy,  
has quarters at the Windsor Hotel.  
Buffalo Bill will presently give the city public  
glimpses of frontier life—on the stage.  
In Algeria a train was stopped by the locusts.  
Here this often happens to our citizens.  
Senator George Brown, of Canada, is among the  
recent arrivals at the St. Nicholas Hotel.  
Congressman Lyman K. Bass, of Buffalo, arrived  
from Washington yesterday at the Fifth Avenue  
Hotel.  
Speaker James G. Blaine and General B. F. Butler  
were in the city for a short time yesterday, on their  
way East.  
Chief Justice Morrison R. Waite, of the United  
States Supreme Court, is sojourning at the St.  
Nicholas Hotel.  
Governor Charles R. Ingersoll and Judges San-  
ford and Beardsley, of Connecticut, are at the  
Windsor Hotel.  
The Chevalier Alphonse de Stuers, Chargé d'Aff-  
aires of the Netherlands at Washington, is at the  
Fifth Avenue Hotel.  
Congressman Charles Foster, of Ohio, and  
Lorenzo Crouse, of Nebraska, have apartments